



Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations

www.afmlta.asn.au

The Honourable Jason Clare MP Minister for Education House of Representatives Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

10 August 2022

Via email: jason.clare.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Minister

The Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations (AFMLTA) represents teachers of languages in the pre-school, primary, secondary, tertiary and community school sectors. We have a membership of over 3500 teachers across the nation, as the umbrella association for languages teacher associations in all eight Australian states and territories.

AFMLTA provides vision, leadership, representation, advocacy, and support for quality teaching and learning of languages. We envision an Australia that embraces its plurilingual context and values the languages and cultures of all Australians and their entitlement to further languages education and the benefits this brings to our world.

In furtherance of achieving this vision the AFMLTA has worked collaboratively with federal, state and territory departments responsible for education over many years to complete numerous national/state/territory projects. The most recent and significant of such projects is *Towards a National Plan and Strategy for Language Education in Australia* (NLPS) undertaken on behalf of the Australian Government's Department of Education. NLPS is an evidence-based project incorporating two bodies of research. The first was focused on program provision and student participation in Australian first languages, community languages, and school languages contexts, and the second was a deep analysis of the research into high quality languages education. The results of this research have informed the development of recommendations for implementation of a national languages plan and strategy. The NLPS project, commenced in 2019, is now complete, with the research reports awaiting Ministerial review.

Considering Australian Government Ministers' positive engagement in multilingual contexts both within Australia and overseas, we believe that NLPS will resonate with you and the Australian Government.

The AFMLTA has proven credibility for leadership in languages education. The executive includes leading tertiary, secondary and primary researchers, teachers, and languages consultants from across the states and territories, who are nationally and internationally respected for their contributions to the field, and who have influence in all education jurisdictions across Australia, including government, Catholic and independent schools, and senior secondary boards of studies. As the recipient of several government grants, the AFMLTA has exercised good governance and operational integrity in managing and acquitting allocated funds.





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We are keen to meet with you to further convey our work and understand your vision for languages education in Australia.

We look forward to a favourable response and to meeting with you in the near future.

Should you wish to schedule a meeting or require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at president@afmlta.asn.au.

Gillian Cordy

President AFMLTA

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